

THE

GATEWAY

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT OMAHA'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1913

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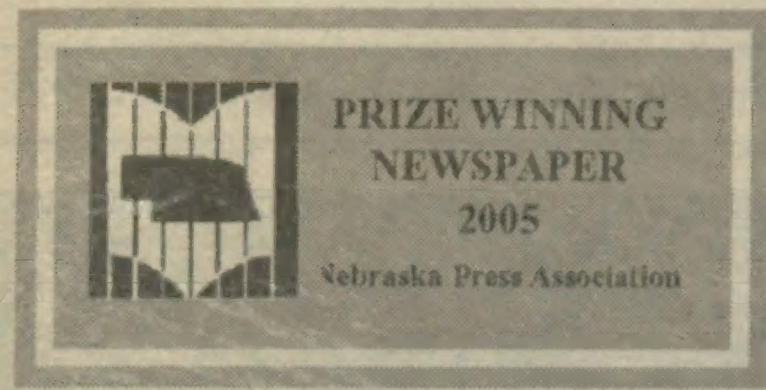


photo by Caelan Millerd

The School of Social Work will challenge its conditional accreditation status.

School hits accreditation speed bump

CRYSTAL R. REID
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The council that accredits the UNO School of Social Work says there's more the school can do to better serve its students and community.

But Theresa Barron-McKeagney, director of the school, says the council is wrong.

In early February, the Council on Social Work Education sent a letter to UNO's School of Social Work, citing two areas in which the school could improve: Student-to-teacher ratios and informing constituents about the school's work.

The commission that reviewed the school said the student-to-teacher ratios were too high, and that the school isn't doing enough to reach the community, the state leaders and other constituents.

The school will retain its accreditation, but has a year to fix the problems, according to the Karen Robard, an accreditation specialist from the council.

But Barron-McKeagney said the matter is one of form, and not one of substance.

"I believe there were a couple of ways where the commission may not have been clear," Barron-McKeagney said.

Every eight years, the school must go through reaccreditation, submitting a full and complex report, including a site visit, to the council.

A commission then reviews the report, finds strengths and weaknesses, and relays them to the school. If anything is not in compliance with one or more standards, the commission responds with three actions: conditional accredited status, withdrawal of

See **SOCIAL WORK**: Page 2



photo by Michelle Bishop

LaCheryl Prince flies past South Dakota's Meghan Woster during the second half of Wednesday's first-round game of the North Central Conference's Wells Fargo Finals. The Mavs won 57-56 and Prince finished the game with 10 points.

Mav women win the battle against South Dakota

MICHELLE BISHOP
PHOTO EDITOR

Riding a three-game winning streak into Wednesday's game, the Mavericks battled South Dakota down to the final second for the win in the first-round of the North Central Conference's Wells Fargo Finals at the Sapp Fieldhouse.

With one second left to play and the Mavericks down 56-54, senior JJ Smith was fouled on a three-point shot. Smith, playing her final game for UNO, connected on all three free throws to lift the Mavs to a 57-56 win.

"It's poetic for a senior to be at the line to win a game, for a 20-win season," said Coach Patty Patton Shearer. "It was great for her to make those three free throws."

The teams battled back and forth during the first half, each team held six point leads until the Mavs went ahead at the eight-minute mark to carry a 36-31 lead into halftime.

USD took advantage of the Mavs' cold start in the second half to go on a 11-2 run, taking a 42-38 lead with 13:51 to play.

The Mavs battled back to take a 47-42 lead— thanks to a 9-0 run where Smith contributed five points at the game's midway point.

USD fought back as Ashley Bjorkman and Meghan Woster hit three-point shots and to pull the Coyotes to 56-51 with 34 seconds left on two free throws by Ashley Robinette.

The Mavs climbed within 56-54 with 24 seconds left on Ashley Freerksen's three-pointer. USD could have iced the game with 18 seconds left, but Woster

See **WOMEN'S BASKETBALL**: Page 5

Pessimism follows federal science initiative announcement

SCOTT STEWART

SENIOR STAFF WRITER / SYSTEMS MANAGER

A new federal initiative promises to provide additional sources of funding for teacher education and scientific research, but some UNO students and professors are skeptical of the program.

"The American Competitiveness Initiative commits \$5.9 billion in [fiscal year] 2007 to increase investments in research and development, strengthen education and encourage entrepreneurship," according to a White House news release.

The initiative was announced last

month during President George W. Bush's annual State of the Union Address. Funding for the initiative is part of the Bush administration's current budget proposal.

"Personally, I think it is a wonderful idea," said Connie O'Brien, coordinator of the NASA Regional Teachers Resource Center.

O'Brien cited remarks made by National Aeronautics and Space Administration Deputy Administrator Shana Dale

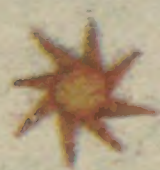
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American Competitiveness Initiative Goals

- ◎ 300 grants for schools to implement research-based math curricula and interventions;
- ◎ 10,000 more scientists, students, post-doctoral fellows and technicians provided opportunities to contribute to the innovation enterprise;
- ◎ 100,000 highly-qualified math and science teachers by 2015;
- ◎ 700,000 advanced placement tests passed by low-income students; and
- ◎ 800,000 workers getting the skills they need for the jobs of the 21st century.

Source: whitehouse.gov

OmahaWeather



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News you can use

COMPILED BY KIMBERLY BRYANT
LINE COPY EDITOR

UNO to host Model United Nations March 3-5

The third annual Model United Nations (U.N.) at UNO is set for Friday through Sunday, March 3-5, and will involve nine area high schools and two teams of home-schooled students. Members of Sigma Iota Rho, the UNO international studies major honor society, will coordinate the event.

The Model U.N. is sponsored by the Qwest Global Education Fund and UNO/University of Nebraska Medical Center International Studies and Programs, in cooperation with the Metropolitan Omaha Educational Consortium.

Model U.N. activities kick off Friday, March 3, at 5:30 p.m. with registration and

an introductory session. Model U.N. work begins Saturday, March 4, at 10 a.m. in Room 438 of Arts and Sciences Hall. The Model U.N. reconvenes Sunday, March 5, at the same time and location.

Participating high schools include Bellevue East, Bellevue West, Council Bluffs Thomas Jefferson, Duchesne Academy, Elkhorn, Omaha Benson, Omaha Burke, Omaha Mercy and Papillion-LaVista South. Fourteen home-schooled students will also take part, in addition to a dozen high school foreign exchange students.

For more information, call 554-3502. During the Model U.N., call 690-3432.

University Library announces construction, spring break hours

University Library will be closed Saturday, March 11, and Sunday, March 12,

due to construction on the new addition. Electricity will be switched off in order to connect the addition to the existing building's power supply and fire alarm systems.

A special generator will be installed, so all online databases and other Web-based library services will be available without interruption.

University Library will be open March 13-17, according to the following schedule:

Monday, March 13, through Thursday, March 16

8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Friday, March 17

8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For more information, contact the library office at 554-2640.

UNO Job Fair March 8

Career Exploration and Outreach will host a job fair Wednesday, March 8, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Milo Bail Student Center Ballroom. The event will feature employers who are actively seeking candidates for open positions and internships.

Professional interview attire is expected, and students can pre-register to attend the fair through Friday, March 3.

To register, students must have a profile on the UNO CareerConnect system. Students can visit unocoe.unomaha.edu and click on the "CareerConnect" link to create a profile and register for the fair.

For more information about the job fair, CareerConnect and other services offered by Career Exploration and Outreach, call 554-3672, or stop by the Eppley Administration Building, Room 211.

New program: UNO CARES

CHRIS LARSON
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

UNO has launched a new special education masters program to help fill the shortage of special education teachers in grades seven through 12.

This new program, CARES (Certification Alternative Reaching Exceptional Students), started accepting applications on Feb. 15 for area professionals with a bachelor's degree in English, math or one of the sciences because of new regulations for secondary education by the federal No Child Left Behind act.

"This shortage is not just local, it is statewide and nationally as well," said Becky Schnabel, coordinator of student services in the College of Education.

Applicants must have their degree in one of the main content areas and have a minimum GPA of 3.0 to be considered. After the application has been approved by the College of Education, it is sent to the seven local districts participating in the program.

The districts then decide which student or students they want to interview and mentor throughout the 18-month program, said Larry Heck, CARES project coordinator.

"We are hoping to have at least one candidate from each district for the first

class," Schnabel said. "So, if we could get seven to 10, we would feel really good about it."

The school districts participating are excited by the new program because of the quick turnaround.

"We can train some of our own, have them trained within 18 months and into the classroom," said George Spilker, director of Special Education for the Papillion-La Vista School district. "This will really help our students with disabilities."

Students who are enrolled would begin classes in May with a 12-credit-hour course load. They would then take courses continuously for another four semesters, according to the CARES Web site. Throughout the program, the students will be in classrooms gaining experience while earning their degrees. After the 18-month program is finished, the students will have their teaching certification and their special education endorsement.

"We are unique in developing this program," Heck said.

After the first session of classes for the CARES program, the College of Education is hoping to start a new group of students every May, Schnabel said. There will be an overlap during the summer and fall semesters.

Schnabel believes this program is very important.

"Kids are our business," Schnabel said. "If we don't do what is right for our children, we are in trouble."

For more information on the CARES program or to apply for the program visit unocoe.unomaha.edu/cares or call Larry Heck at 554-2733.

From **SOCIAL WORK**: Page 1

accreditation or order another site visit at the expense of the school.

UNO's School of Social Work was given conditional status, meaning the school has until December to fix the noncompliance issues.

But Barron-McKeagney said the school won't need a year. She's drafting a letter to the commission to clarify and articulate any confusion the commission may have had with her report. Then in June, she will present her case to the council in person.

Afterward, she expects the school to be taken off of conditional accreditation.

She said the report the school submitted may not have been clear: The school has a strong student-to-teacher ratio, somewhere in the area of 6.5 students to every teacher for at least one of the social work programs.

Amy Panning, a social work major and the senator for the College of Public Administration and Social Work, said the opposite of the commission's report is true: There aren't enough teachers.

"The teachers are great, they've been really wonderful," Panning said. "But maybe if they had more teachers, they could accept more people into the program."

Panning said only about 25 students are accepted into the bachelor's program every year, and about 60 apply. Competition is tight, but the school prides itself on its close contact and work with the students, she said.

Barron-McKeagney said the site visit went extremely well, and the commission's visitors were overwhelmed with the community response to the School of

Social Work.

Somewhere along the line, though, the communications became crossed, and the commission said the school could do more to reach the community.

Panning, who is also part of a student social work organization, said the school could do more to inform the public.

"I think maybe it would be nice to publicize their work more," she said. "It may be hard to know what's going on if you're not in the college."

But Barron-McKeagney is optimistic. She said the school regularly updates its Web site, sends out newsletters and is in constant communication with community and state leaders in social care.

"I believe things are going to be fine," she said. "If we can't do it in June, we can definitely do it by December."

THE GATEWAY

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT OMAHA'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1913

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FEATURES

Josh Bashara | Features Editor

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20 Questions



A little insight into a random UNO student

BECKY BOYER
STAFF WRITER

Name: Sarah VanRaden
Major: Library Science
Year: Third year
Hometown: Des Moines, Iowa

1. How would you describe yourself in one brief sentence? – *I think I'm a pretty committed individual to school, church and my life goals.*

2. If you could be a superhero, what power would you want the most? – *Probably to be invisible; it would be cool.*

3. What person would you like to meet the most, dead or alive, and what would you ask him/her? – *Let's say, I don't know.*

4. Who's the best professor at UNO you've ever had? – *Becky Pasco. I think she's just really excited about what she's teaching and gets you excited about it as well.*

5. Who's the worst? – *A [teacher for a] human relations class.*

6. How do you feel about the parking at UNO? – *It's pretty bad, we need more student parking.*

7. Why did you choose UNO? – *Because it was the only university in the Midwest that had a library science program.*

8. What do you think your favorite thing about going to school at UNO will be? – *The people I've met*

9. What is your favorite quote? – *'Be as careful of the books you read as the company you heed, for you will be as much influenced by the former as the latter.'* – Hood

10. If you knew you were going to die tomorrow, what would you do today? – *Probably just go, like, talk to people because my view on life would be changed and it would probably change their view, life and its meaning as well.*

11. What's your favorite movie, and why? – *I really like Disney's Peter Pan because of its child-like quality.*

12. What's the most messed-up thing about the world today? – *There are too many things.*

13. What would you do to change that? – *I don't know if we can change that, the world is so evil.*

14. If you could be any animal what would you be? – *I would want to be a jaguar because I've always liked them.*

15. What's the most horrible or embarrassing thing that's ever happened to you? – *I attempt to forget all those moments right after they happen.*

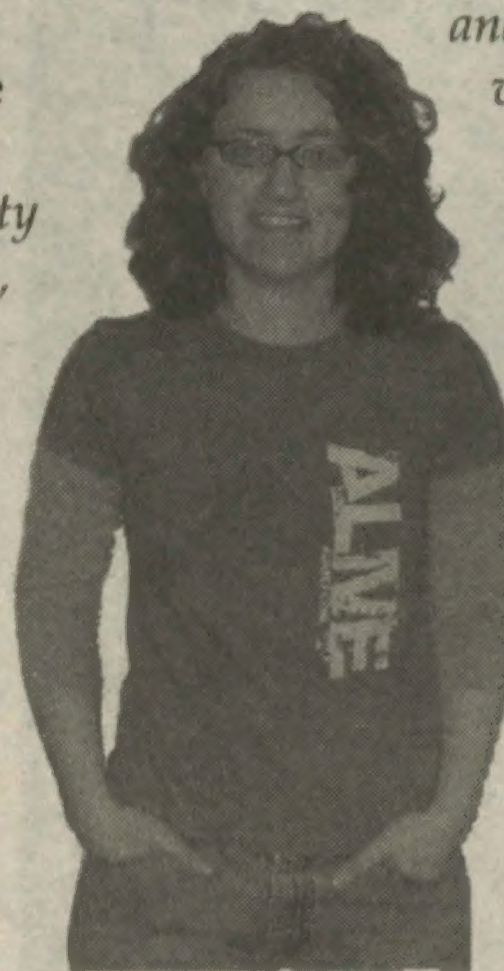
16. What song or jingle gets stuck in your head after you hear it? – *Most that I hear.*

17. Who would win in a fight between Batman and Superman? – *Batman.*

18. What's the meaning of life? – *42.*

19. What is the most difficult thing you've ever done in your life? – *Talking to others about my faith.*

20. What is one question you've never been asked, but always wish someone would have and what is your answer to the question? – *No comment...*



Spring break alternatives

COMMENTARY BY MICHAEL McMANUS
ASSISTANT FEATURES/ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Although some may beg to differ, spring break doesn't always have to be limited to overcrowded beaches, \$50 bikini contests and endless nights of fruit-infused alcoholic beverages.

For those unable to make the spring break voyage to an island getaway, there are affordable and local alternatives that are worth giving a try this spring break week.

How about trying a natural alternative?

Just a short 45-mile drive outside of Omaha brings you to Mahoney State Park. This may not be the ideal spring break location, but perhaps it should be. Mahoney offers beautiful four-bedroom cabins secluded on wooden-ridge tops. Each cabin offers maid service, a television, refrigerator, oven, outdoor fireplace, grill and plenty of seclusion. When you're not spending time in the cabin, horseback riding, fishing, miniature golfing, hiking and ice skating are a few of the activities that can take up your time. Spring break is the perfect time of the year to go to Mahoney; you will avoid the summer crowds, and have plenty of quiet time to enjoy all that nature has to offer.

A spiritual alternative?

The Campus Crusade for Christ is gathering a group of UNO students to bring relief to the areas affected by Hurricane Katrina. "The goal of the spring break trip

will be to bring God glory by serving the hurting Katrina victims," said Tyler Zach, coordinator for Nebraska Campus Crusade. So far there are 70 students from UNO signed up to serve on the Gulf Coast. The group will partner with the relief organization "Operation Blessing," in Slidell, La. (15 minutes outside New Orleans), and completing work orders that local individuals have filled out. Students can find more information at nebraskarelieff.com.

A weekend downtown?

Many of us look forward to extravagant hotels, five-star dining, beautiful scenery and nights of endless drinking. If that's how you want to spend your spring break, look no further than downtown Omaha. Surrounded by The Hilton, Embassy Suites, The Marriott, and the Doubletree, there are many overnight options for the UNO student. Hotel rooms go for about \$150 a night for two queen-size beds, and are surrounded by all the best nightlife Omaha has to offer. Once you've checked into your room, it's off to The French Cafe, Nicolas, La Buvette or V. Mertz for a fine dining experience. Finish the night off with a trip to M's Pub, Upstream Brewery or even The Max. If you want to have a weekend to remember, spend spring break in our very own downtown district.

A getaway in good ole' CB?

That was no typo, CB means Council Bluffs, and yes, it could very well be your next spring break destination. A short drive over the border brings you to the Council
See SPRING BREAK: Page 6



Religious Studies at UNO

Student Essay Competition

First Prize \$500 – Second Prize \$300

Third Prize \$100

Competition Rules

1. Open to all UNO undergraduate students
2. Essays should be on a topic in religious studies
3. Essays should be no more than 2700 words, double spaced, type written
4. Essays should be submitted to the Religious Studies Program, ASH 205, before 5:00 p.m. on 3 April 2006.

The three winning essays will be read by their authors at a special religious studies colloquium on 20 April.

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Students' impact is felt, needed at hockey games

CHARLEY REED
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

When UNO introduced its new hockey program in 1997, many people knew the new team would be competing against high expectations. What was not expected was that the team would need to compete with an oft-overlooked commodity to the best college hockey programs in the nation: A viable, loud, powerful and noticeable student section. Through its genesis, the UNO hockey program, now in its eighth year and on the verge of its first NCAA tournament appearance, has always seemed to lack a concentrated support from UNO students.

That changed in 2005 when the athletic department began to actively pursue the creation of a student section at home games for the Mavericks' hockey team. Students, who are allowed free admission to UNO hockey games with a valid Student I.D. card, have been corralled into section 113 in the Qwest Center. The section is located directly behind the opposing goalie and directly below section 213, which houses UNO hockey's Red Army fan group. The changes made to the Qwest Center seating to place students in this prime location was met with opposition by some season ticket holders, but the impact on the atmosphere has been dramatic to students, fans and spectators: Jon Brooks (UNO alumnus and co-founder of Mavpuck.com): "When I attended UNO in the early 90s, there was quite a bit of student apathy. Having a D-1 hockey program provides an



The Maverick hockey team will look forward to a loud and packed student section during the team's last home series and CCHA playoff games this weekend at the Qwest Center.

important catalyst for bonding among students and facilitates school pride." Rick Jeffries (Lawyer for Kutak Rock LLP and Red Army spokesperson): "The students have been insane, from their hilarious signs to their full-body paint jobs, and hockey games have been lots more fun as a result." Steve Coppard (President of UNO's Blue Line Club): "Clearly, [the students] can be an asset to the team

by demonstrating enthusiasm, passion and school spirit during the game."

Adam Froemming (Sports writer at The Reader): "I think that the UNO athletic department has finally found one of the intangibles that they have been desperately searching for since they moved the hockey team to the Qwest Center Omaha."

Jeff Baker (UNO graduate student): "I have purchased tickets in the 'student

section' for the last seven years and there has never been much of an atmosphere until this year, and I think they have a long way to go."

Mike Jaxien (UNO alumnus): "Some people wish that UNO would move back to the Civic; however, one of the things that seemed to be missing at the Civic was a true student section." Christopher Boehm (UNO student and former UNO goalie): "I think the students at UNO underestimate how powerful of a resource they can be. Look at Yost, look at Lawson, they're right on top of the action, and players react."

With the team's last home games of the season being played this weekend, many will look to the students to make the team as intimidating as they were back in 2000, the last time the Mavericks played Bowling Green in a playoff scenario. Mitch Eickman (UNO student, Durango and brother of UNO defenseman Mike Eickman): "We need everyone at the Qwest this weekend for our games against Bowling Green."

All it will take is a student I.D., \$6 for parking or the willingness to walk from the Old Market, and a desire to watch playoff caliber hockey to help cheer on the UNO hockey team. Jump on the last chance be a part of the first-ever coordinated student section for the Maverick hockey team.



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Look for us at the UNO's Job Fair on March 8th. You may also apply in person Monday, 1-5pm; Wednesday, 9am-5pm and Friday, 9am-12pm at the Hilton Omaha, 1001 Cass Street (enter the Team Member Entrance off 12th Street).

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Mavericks' season ends despite star performances

NATHAN LEETE
SPORTS EDITOR

Calvin Kapels' 29 points and Zac Robinson's school record of seven three-pointers were not enough to keep the Mavericks' season alive. St. Cloud State scored just four shy of the century mark to win the game 96-84 and end the Mavericks' season Wednesday night.

The Huskies jumped to a 14-2 lead

in the opening four minutes, forcing the Mavs to play catch-up the rest of the match. UNO trailed by 19 in the final minutes, but pulled within 10 with one minute and 21 seconds left after Chris DeSpain scored on a dunk. Kapels rattled off 10 straight points and Robinson drained a three.

The Huskies didn't hit a field goal in the final 6:29 but went 18 of 22 from the line to fend off the Mavericks' rally. "Once you fight back and fight

back, it takes so much of your energy that it's tough to get over the hump," UNO coach Derrin Hansen said in a news release after the game. Hansen's first season ended with a record of 15-16.

Kapels ended his career at No. 12 on UNO's all-time scoring list with 1,102 points. Kapels also holds the record for career steals with 191. Curtis' career ended in the No. 22 spot with 1,051 points.

Hardballers win 3-of-4 in home-and-home series against Griffons

NATHAN LEETE
SPORTS EDITOR

The UNO baseball team took three out of four games from Missouri Western in home-and-home double headers Tuesday and Wednesday.

The Mavericks swept the Griffons on their home turf Tuesday with 4-1 and 10-4 wins before splitting the doubleheader at The Ballpark at Boystown Wednesday with a 14-6 game one win and a 15-2 loss in the late game.

In game one of Tuesday's set, the

Mavericks led 2-1 after five and then added a pair of insurance runs in the sixth when Evan Porter drew a bases-loaded walk.

Game two saw the Mavs down 4-1 before Chad Leon hit a bases-loaded triple and Bryan Frew picked up an RBI single in the fourth. The Mavs added two more runs off of Griffons' errors later in the game.

Wednesday's double-header saw a total of 36 runs between the two games at The Ballpark. The Mavericks converted six hits into six runs in the

bottom of the first inning. The Griffons came within one with a five-run rally in the top of the fourth, but the Mavs answered by scoring eight runs in the final three frames to take the win.

The Griffons bounced back with a fury. MWU took advantage of three Maverick errors in the second inning and scored nine runs on only five hits, then never looked back.

UNO is now 8-3 on the season and will return to action Saturday when it travels to Kearney for a double-header starting at noon.



photo by Michelle Bishop

Kellyn Kramolisch scoops up the ball during the Mavs' 8-0 win over South Dakota on Wednesday. The Mavs won the first game of the doubleheader 6-0.

Warm weather calls for additional games

NATHAN LEETE
SPORTS EDITOR

When UNO's head softball coach, Jeanne Tostenson Scarpello, heard that the temperature was going to be in the 60s, she jumped at the chance to get an extra game for her team, even if it meant just two days advance notice.

"I gave [South Dakota], Wayne State, Rockhurst—you name it [a call]. I was calling anyone to try and get that game in," Scarpello said. "This was definitely what our team needed. Vermillion's had a tough time getting [outside], so this was a huge advantage for them, too."

South Dakota jumped at the chance to get on the field ahead of schedule, but they may have regretted it after being shut out in both games.

In the first game, UNO held USD to just three hits while scoring six runs on 10 hits and an error. The second game was even more lopsided, as the Mavs romped to an 8-0

victory at the end of five innings.

Lauren McArthur lead the Mavericks in game one with a pair of RBI doubles in the first and third innings. Cayte Billman and freshman Amanda Bader also picked up RBI doubles in the 6-0 win.

In the nightcap, Billman took center stage when she blasted a 0-1 count ball more than 200 feet to send it deep over the left-field fence for a three-run homer. Billman's bomb capped a five-run third inning.

In the bottom of the fifth frame Billman picked up her fourth RBI of the game, bringing Svoboda home. A Beth Harris single brought McArthur in to give the Mavs the 8-0 win at the end of five.

"It's early in the season, so you like to see the kids hit the way they have," Scarpello said. "It was a good game overall, defense, pitching and everything."

The Mavericks travel to St. Joseph, Mo. this Saturday and Sunday for the Truman State-Missouri Western Regional Crossover.

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at the Commercial Space Transportation Conference earlier this month.

"The president's emphasis on this important national priority is quite gratifying, as I believe that leadership in space is an important driver for American competitiveness," Dale said at the conference.

However, not everyone is quite so optimistic.

"I am just looking into it right now," said math education professor Elliott Ostler. "Students have not really been talking about it."

Ostler went on to say that he was concerned about the program because of the lack of the promised funding for the No Child Left Behind Act four years ago, and that he was waiting for "the Administration [to] put their money where [its] mouth is."

A science education professor agreed.

"The No Child Left Behind initiative impacted the [primary and secondary] schools," said Sheryl McGlamery. "It puts the burden of funding those changes on the states and districts. There are some districts that have more tax dollars than others."

McGlamery was not familiar with the initiative specifics either.

Funding for many programs and research projects stems from NSF grants, including the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Talent Expansion Program conducted by UNO and Metro Community College.

"Not since the Soviet Union's launch of the Sputnik satellite—47 years ago—has the need to improve science and mathematics education in America been as clear and as urgent as it is today," according to a news release by the National Science Foundation.

"The NSF funding derived from the [American Competitiveness Initiative] is expected to support as many as 500 more research grants in 2007 and provide opportunities for upwards of 6,400 additional scientists, students, post-doctoral fellows and technicians to contribute to the innovation enterprise," according to the White House.

"For us, [the money] is going to be in the form of grants," Ostler said. "We really do not know at this point."

The initiative comes at a time when increased attention is being placed on mathematics and science education programs, as the No Child Left Behind program requires schools to begin assessing students on science standards by the next academic year.

"I am personally opposed to most government spending, particularly in the sciences," physics teaching assistant Erica Tesla said. "Government funding frequently comes with a lot of strings attached, many of which are inconvenient at best or crippling at worst. My opposition to government spending in the sciences is not meant to imply that I think the science should be a lower priority than other things—the problem is that spending implies control."



From **WOMEN'S BASKETBALL:** Page 1

missed the first of a one-and-one shot and UNO rebounded the ball.

With the final seconds ticking off, Smith took a three-point shot from the right corner. Her shot missed, but she was fouled by Erica Schroeder.

"We got down and we just kept battling," Shearer said. "For a while there we just couldn't generate a lot of offensive rhythm...I think that created a little bit of a problem for us, we continued to battle and it made a

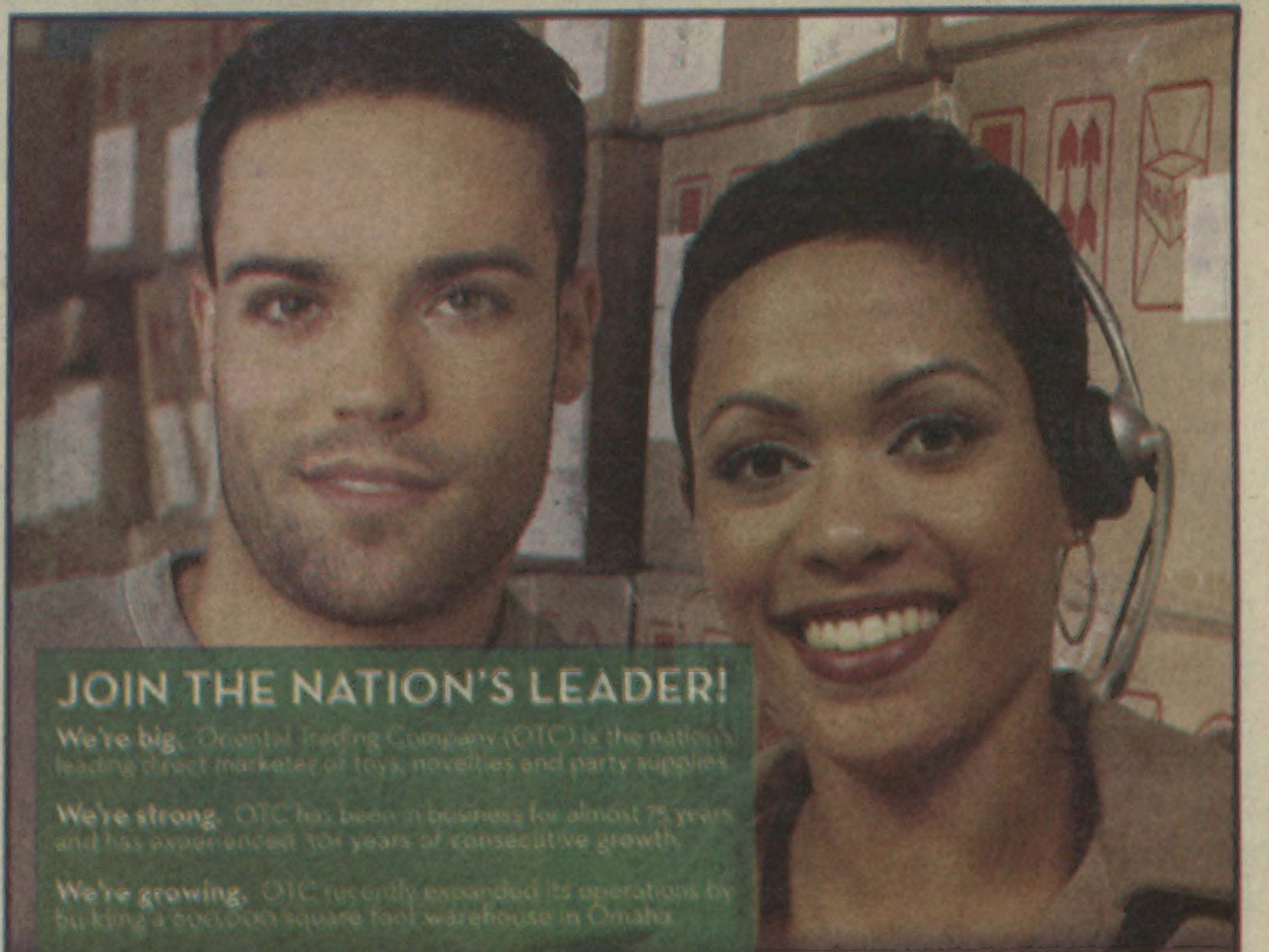
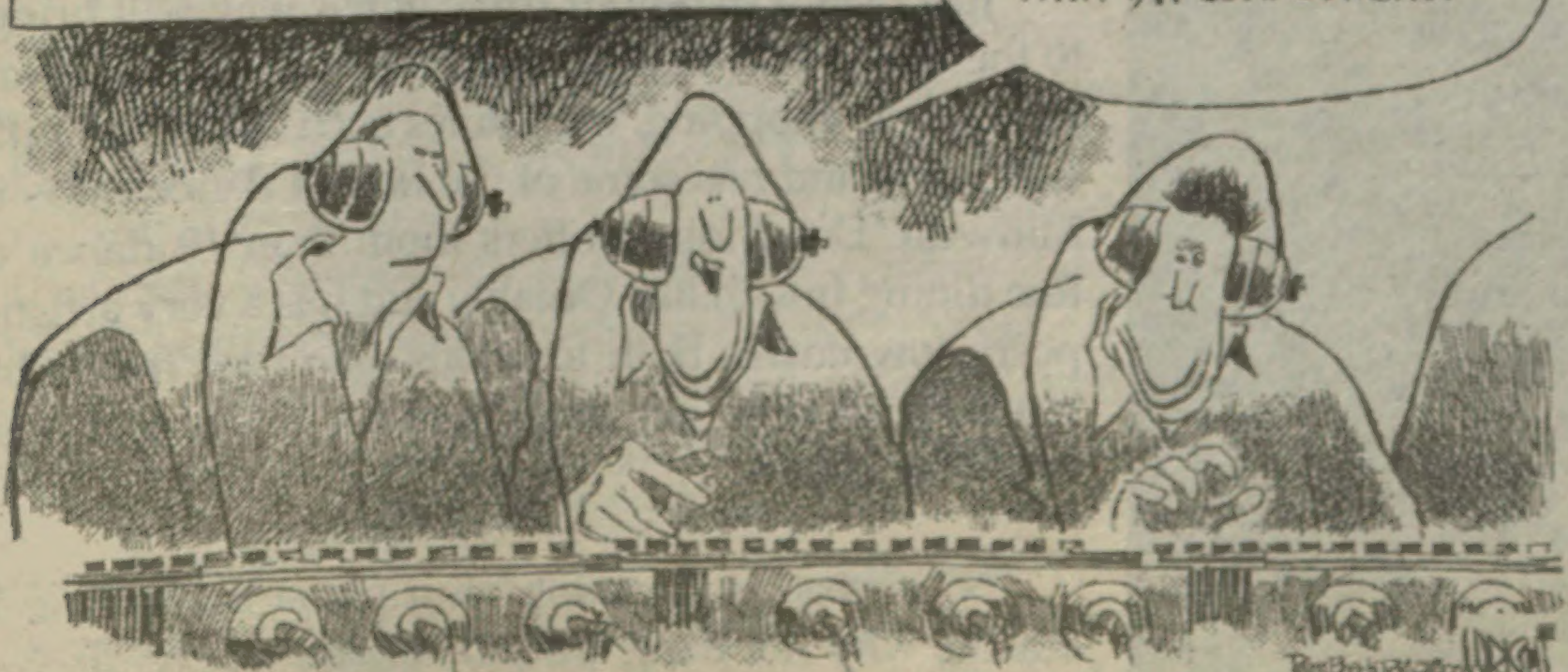
difference at the end."

Smith and Freerksen scored 11 points for the Mavs, while Karen Thies and LaCheryl Prince each added 10. The win pushed UNO to 20-10, earning their first 20-win season since 1991-92.

The Mavs advance to their first-ever trip to the NCC post-season tournament semifinals. With a match-up against unbeaten league champion North Dakota in Grand Forks, N.D., on Saturday, March 4 at 3 p.m.

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Until the violence stops: *Vagina Monologues* to benefit local family service group

AMANDA GOREY
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

"Victory" and "valentine." These are the words most people associate with "V-Day."

Playwright Eve Ensler gave new meaning to the phrase when she began using V-Day in conjunction with her play, *The Vagina Monologues*. The play will come to UNO this weekend as part of the 2006 No Limits Conference.

Inspired by Ensler's play, Valentine's Day has been proclaimed V-Day until violence against women stops. When the day arrives that women and girls no longer fear violence, V-Day's meaning will transition into "Victory Against Violence Day."

Each year Ensler waives the rights to *The Vagina Monologues* in conjunction with V-Day, so that groups can perform the piece with the proceeds benefiting a local organization that works to end violence against women and children. In 2006 more than 1,150 productions of the monologues are scheduled to take place worldwide. The 2005 benefits raised more than \$4 million worldwide.

Graduate student and production director Sonali Kumar presented the idea of the production to the UNO Women's Resource Center as something that would raise community awareness and encourage dialogue on the issues of violence facing women and young girls.

"The play is both funny and intelligent. It speaks very truly to women's experiences; we talk about it in rehearsals as a celebration of our bodies. It's amazing to be in a rehearsal with all of these women from across campus and across our community who have great experiences to share with women who haven't had them: mothers, straight, lesbian, black, white, Hispanic, from their 20s to their 50s. It provides a forum to talk about our own experiences and the experiences of our

cultures," said Kumar.

Put together on a shoestring budget consisting of volunteer labor and \$50 for the printing costs, this benefit is the product of joint effort between No Limits and the WRC. All the proceeds from the performances will

local chapters, Kumar chose Heartland Family Services as the benefit recipient.

"Heartland Family Services is a great, local organization that UNO has a relationship with. It was really important when choosing

that the money raised would be spent right here, in our local community. By doing this,

we are helping to raise their profile in the local community as well," said Kumar.

The show has a history of controversy, largely due to some of the strong themes and accounts of violence and abuse contained in some of the monologues. The purpose and intent of the production is to draw attention to these issues and encourage dialogue.

Kumar said they hope to have some feedback and dialogue during the talk back sessions.

The Vagina Monologues contains strong language and adult themes, including rape and violence. It may not be suited for younger audience members. The production will be performed in Eppley Auditorium, Eppley Administration Building, at 6001 Dodge St., Friday through Sunday, March 3-5. The house will open at 7 p.m. with a 7:30 p.m. curtain for all performances. The March 5 performance will be ASL-interpreted. A talkback session with the director, designers and cast will follow the March 4 performance.

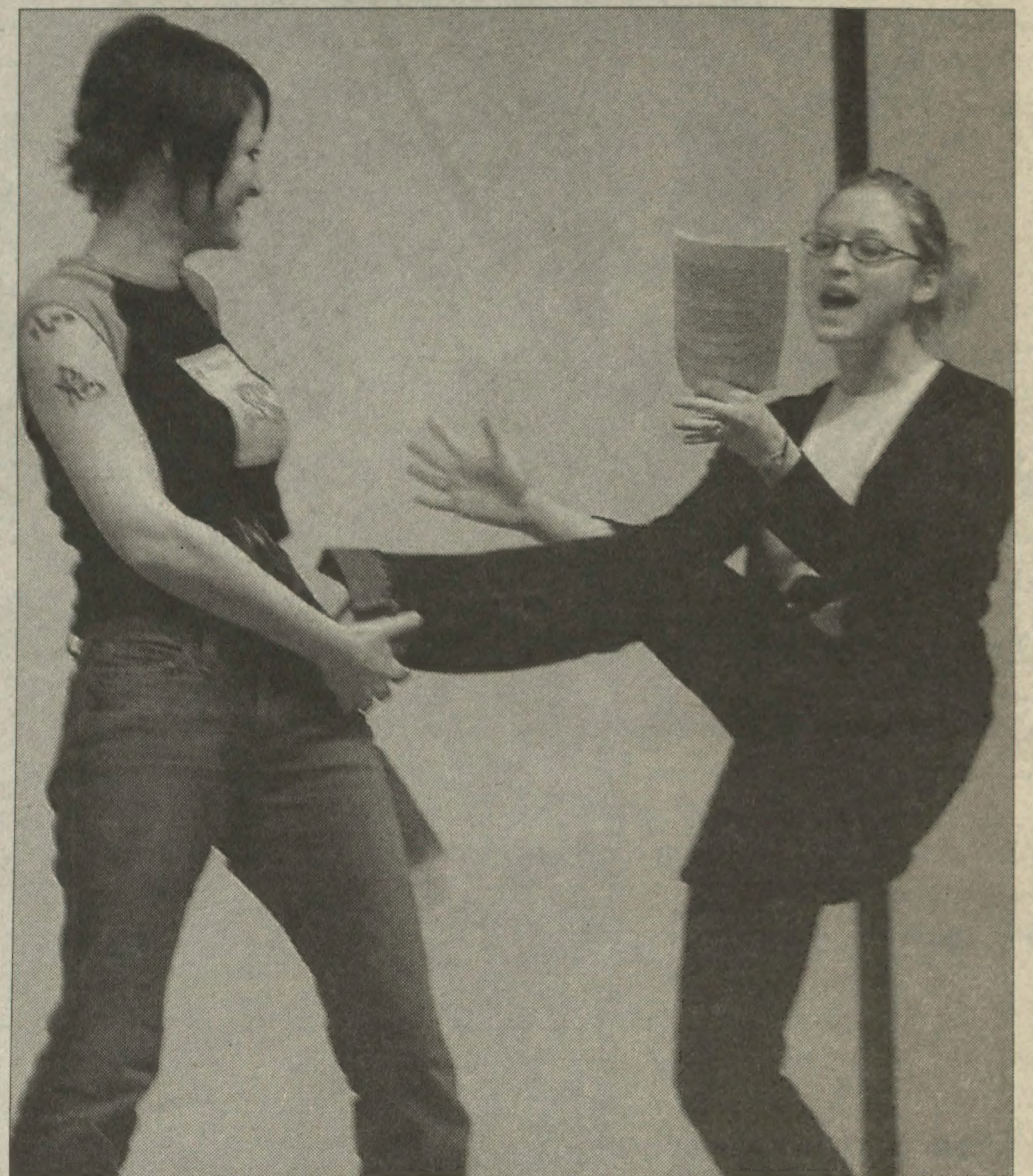
From **SPRING BREAK**: Page 3

Bluffs casino district. Ameristar, Bluffs Run and Harrah's are the three major casinos that draw Nebraskans and Iowans to this area. With killer restaurants, buffets and daily entertainment, how can you go wrong? Get a room at Ameristar, enjoy dinner at the Waterfront Grille, catch one of their nightly shows and spend the rest of the night in the casino. A spring break away from the regular daily routine indeed.

Kansas City or Des Moines, anyone?

Just over a two-hour drive either way will bring you to these two Midwestern hot spots. Kansas City is known for extreme shopping, with stores such as Urban Outfitters and Rave, and has some of the hottest dance clubs in the Midwest. Des Moines offers more than 19 dance clubs, fine dining (much like Omaha) and has a very artistic and posh downtown. Both locations aren't far from Omaha, but far enough to get away from the hustle and bustle of everyday life.

So instead of jumping on a plane this spring break season, why not hang around Omaha and re-discover all the Midwest has to offer?



photos by Caelan Miller

Vickie Falcon (left) and Sandy Lemmon and Lora Kaup (top) practice their monologues in preparation for this weekend's performance.

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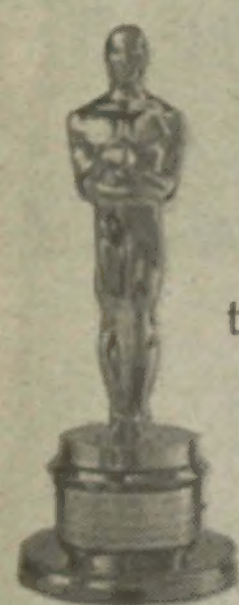
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2006 Oscar predictions by entertainment guru

ANDREW CUMBEE
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR



It's that time of year again and truthfully, I cannot remember an Oscar ceremony that I have looked more forward to. Not only have I seen almost all of the nominated films, but I only hated three of them this year. Plus, with Jon Stewart hosting, it's sure to be an entertaining presentation.

So let's get right into it. Some of you may have read my predictions last year, and for those who did, you know that I was about 40 percent accurate. What can I say? So don't bet on my picks then. Sorry. Anyway, this year will be a different story. The article will go as follows: I'll give you the category, who I want to win and who I think will win. After the Oscars on Sunday, March 5, I'll be back with some commentary on my incredible genius or lack there-of. Here we go:

Best Animated Feature Film: All right, truthfully I haven't seen *The Corpse Bride*, *Howl's Moving Castle* or the new *Wallace and Gromit* movie. Sigh...first award and I already disproved my "seen almost all of the nominated films" thing. Anyway, *Howl's Moving Castle* should run away with this. The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences (AMPAS) knows that Hayao Miyazaki, the film's writer, director and producer, is a genius and is keeping hand-drawn animation alive.

Best Foreign Language Film: Okay, you got me again. I've only heard of two of these movies. I'm gonna just say *Paradise Now* and move on.

Best Documentary, Feature: Really, we live in Omaha. I don't think any of these movies even came here. I choose *Murderball*. And I'm skipping Short Subject Documentary and both Short Film categories, 'cause there is no point.

Best Score: Gustavo Santaolalla will win for his *Brokeback Mountain* score. No one else really needs to be mentioned, truthfully.

Best Original Song: There are only three nominees this year and only one song that matters not only in the film, but to the Oscar ceremony and in real life. "It's Hard Out Here for a Pimp" from *Hustle & Flow*.

Best Make-Up: We got *Star Wars: Episode III, The Chronicles of Narnia* and *Cinderella Man*. I don't even remember makeup outside of *Star Wars* so that's my pick.

Best Visual Effects: *Narnia*, *King Kong* or *War of the Worlds*. I don't know where *Star Wars* is on this list, but whatever. I think *Kong* will take it down, but I'd much prefer *War of the Worlds*. I just think *Worlds* was more realistic and believable, but apparently *King Kong* was amazing and I'm an idiot.

Best Sound and Sound Editing: This is actually two awards. I won't get into the nominees and all that. It's gonna be a battle between *War of the Worlds* and *King Kong* again. And again, I'll pick *Kong* to win both, even though I think *Worlds* should get them.

Best Editing: This is a tough category this year with *Cinderella Man*, *The Constant Gardener*, *Crash*, *Munich* and *Walk the Line*. It's always a good pick to go with the boxing movie, though, so I'd expect Omaha-born Mike Hill (along with Daniel P. Hanley) to receive his second Oscar for *Cinderella Man*.

Best Costume Design: *Memoirs of a Geisha*. Only one that matters.

Best Art Direction: *Good Night and Good Luck*, *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*, *King Kong*, *Memoirs* again and *Pride and Prejudice*. I'll take *Good Night* and its 1950s style, but I think *Kong* may sneak itself into another win here.

Best Cinematography: *Batman Begins* (yeah, that's a weird nomination), *Brokeback*

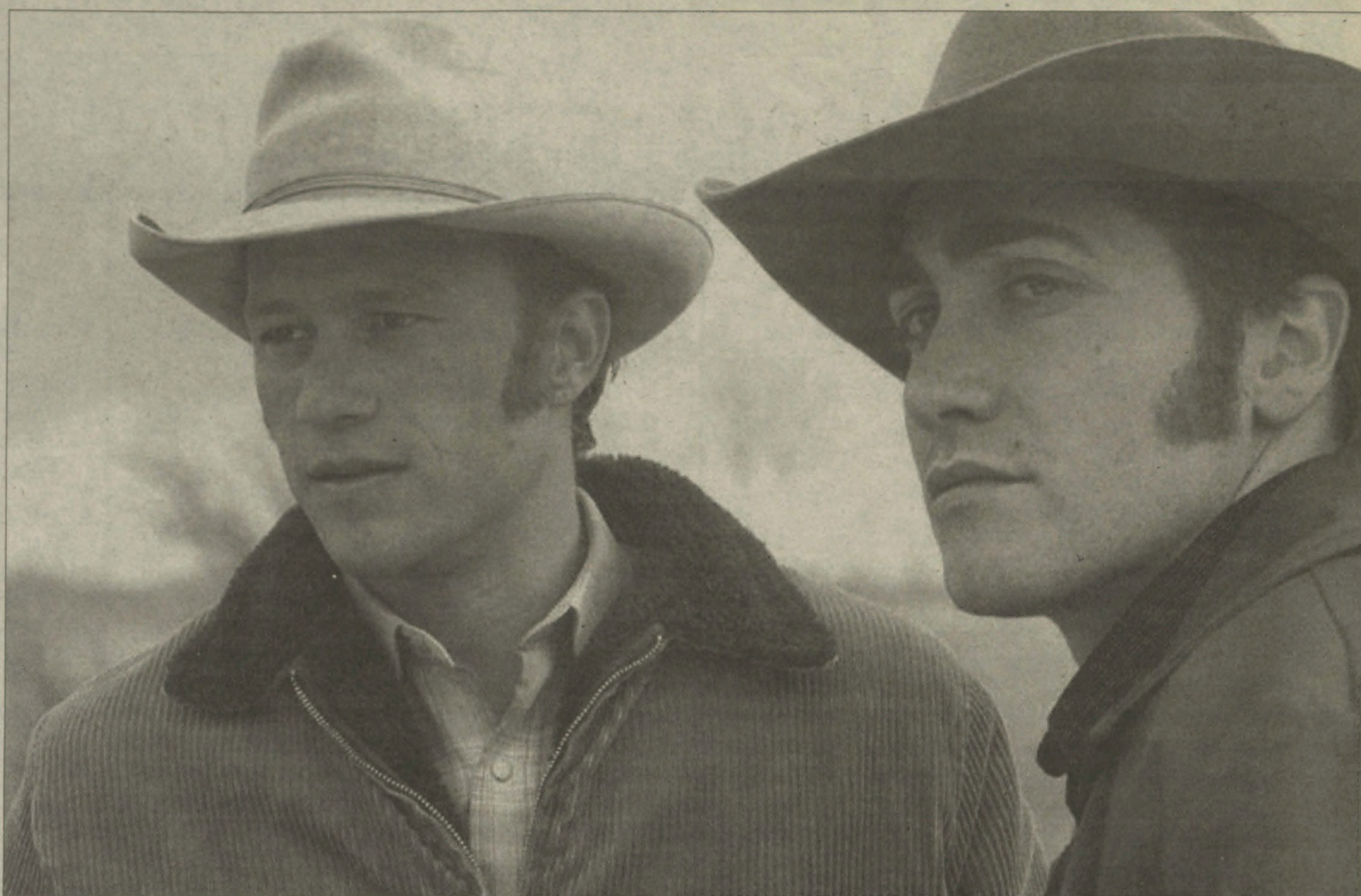


photo by Universal Pictures

At this year's Oscars, expect critics' favorite *Brokeback Mountain* to win most of the awards that it is nominated for.

Mountain, *Good Night*, *Memoirs* and *The New World*. Personally, I would have gone with *The Constant Gardener*, but because AMPAS skipped over it this year, I'll take my number two pick, *Brokeback Mountain*.

Best Screenplay: The new awards names for these are far too long to type, so we'll go with the old ones—Adapted and Original. For Adapted, no one has a shot against *Brokeback Mountain*, based on a short story. And for Original, I don't think anyone has a shot against *Good Night*. Those are the ones I want to win and the ones that I think will.

Best Directing: We have Ang Lee for *Brokeback*, Bennett Miller for *Capote*, Paul Haggis for *Crash*, George Clooney for *Good Night*, and Steven Spielberg for *Munich*. Ang Lee has this hands down. He's got the experience that AMPAS loves to look at for their directors, and he truly does deserve it. I'd have taken David Cronenberg for *A History of Violence*, truthfully. That movie got screwed this year.

Best Supporting Actress: Michelle Williams, Frances McDormand, Amy Adams, Catherine Keener and Rachel Weisz are the nominees here. The only standout here is Rachel Weisz for her work in *The Constant Gardener*. She's swept most critics awards this year for the role, also.

Best Supporting Actor: Jake Gyllenhaal, Paul Giamatti, Matt Dillon, George Clooney and William Hurt. This race has been whittled down to Dillon for *Crash* and Clooney for *Syriana*. Both were truly amazing, but for me personally, I'm rooting for Dillon to take down the heavily favored Clooney. I know, I know, Clooney is going to lose all of his other nominations (he had a record-setting three this year) and deserves something, but Dillon frankly blew me away more with what he did in *Crash*. On a side note, I know that I just said *A History of Violence* got screwed with the nominations, but seriously...William Hurt does not deserve to be on here. I felt that it was his performance that kept the movie from being even better. Ed Harris, also for *A History of Violence* deserved his spot.

Best Actress: Judi Dench, Kiera Knightly, Reese Witherspoon, Felicity Huffman and Charlize Theron. Reese Witherspoon has been owed an Oscar for years now and will finally pick one up this year for *Walk the Line*.

Best Actor: Heath Ledger, Philip

Seymour Hoffman, David Strathairn, Terrence Howard and Joaquin Phoenix. Let me say that this is one of those special years for this category. All of these guys truly deserve the award and could win for these performances, if they didn't have this competition. Everyone is picking Hoffman for *Capote* and it seems like he's in the lead at this point. Personally, I'd give it to Phoenix for his amazing portrayal of Johnny Cash in *Walk the Line*. I also can't say

enough about Ledger, who surprised me a lot with *Brokeback Mountain*.

Best Picture: Here it is, the big one. Probably anyone can guess what's gonna win. *Brokeback Mountain*, in a landslide. The other nominees, *Capote*, *Crash*, *Good Night and Good Luck* and *Munich* are all great, but nothing really compares here. *Brokeback* is seriously that amazing. It's on a different level. It will definitely win and it deserves it.

The Gateway Editor-in-Chief

Summer 2006 / Fall 2006

Interested? You can be the one in charge - editing and cutting stories, clipping comics and telling writers if they cut the mustard. Pick up an application at the Gateway office, MBSC 115. Applications are due by Thursday, March 23 at 5 p.m. If you have questions, call Carol at 554-2470.



Mav-Rec

Health, Physical Education and Recreation Building Hours

Monday - Thursday: 6:30 AM - 11:00 PM

Friday: 6:30 AM - 9:00 PM

Saturday: 8:30 AM - 7:00 PM

Sunday: 12:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Mav-Rec Outdoor Venture Center

Trips & Workshops:

Cross Country Skiing in the Grand Teton:

Pre-Trip Meeting:

Tuesday, Feb. 28 from 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Trip Dates:

Saturday, Mar. 11 - Sunday, Mar. 19

\$335 for UNO Students/Faculty

\$386 for General Public

Add \$15 if registering after **Mar. 1**

- Join the OVC on a Spring Break Trip to one of the country's premier national parks -- The Grand Teton.
- Trip includes four nights lodging in Jackson, Wyoming; five days of camping and cross country skiing; and one day of downhill or cross country skiing on groomed trails.

Lead/Sport Climbing Certification:

Saturday, Mar. 4 from 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

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Add \$5 if registering after 2/28

Teaches sport climbing on the climbing wall

Certification can be challenged (\$10 UNO/\$15 GP)

Basic Map & Compass

Class Session: Thursday, Mar. 23 (7:00 PM - 9:45 PM)

Field Session: Saturday, Mar. 25 (9:00 AM - 5:00 PM)

\$13 for UNO Students/Faculty

\$17 for General Public

Add \$5 if registering after **Mar. 20th**

- Gives beginners the basics of map and compass work
- Field session will be held in Hitchcock Nature Preserve

Mav-Rec Fitness and Wellness

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Monday, Mar. 20 from 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

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Mondays, Mar. 27 - May 1, from 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

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Chair Massage Service:

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Questions? Call Dave at 554.2539

Mav-Rec Aquatics

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Class meets Sundays (Through April 30) from

2:00 PM - 2:45 PM in the HPER Pool

\$5/class for UNO Students

\$7.50/class for General Public

- Participation is limited to females only

Adult Co-Ed Swimming Lessons:

Class meets Saturdays (Through April 30) at

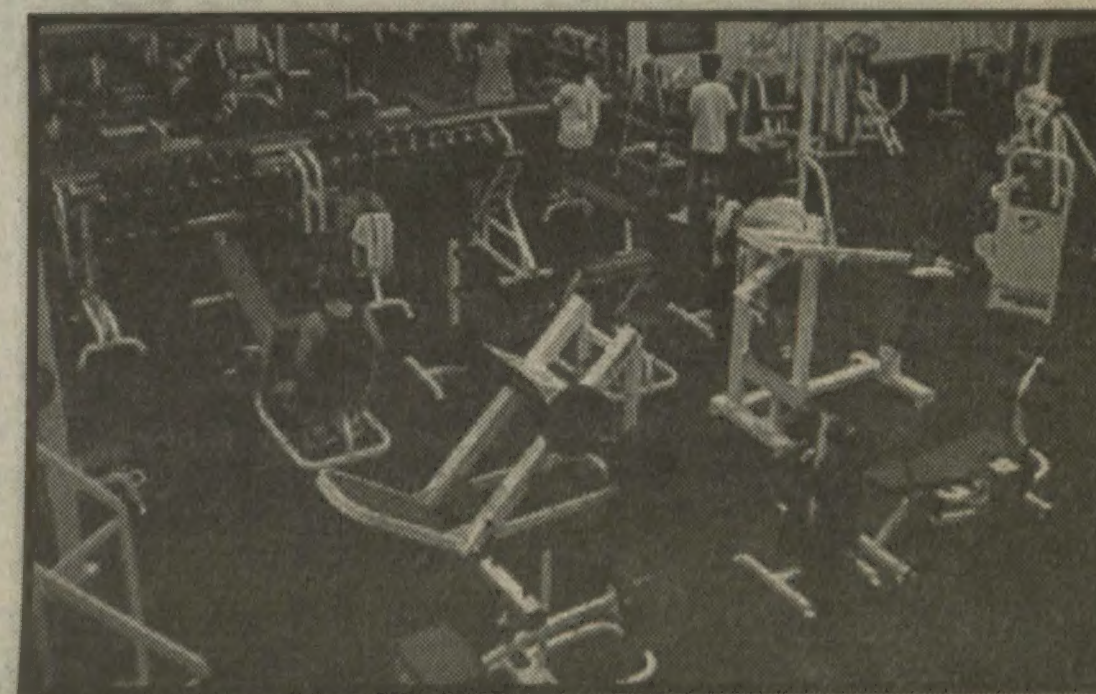
10:30 AM in the HPER Pool

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- Participation is open to males and females

Questions? Call Eric at 554.2223



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Job fair benefits students, employers

CASSY LOSEKE
STAFF WRITER

Get that resumé ready, your suit ironed and your handshake firm because the UNO Spring Job Fair is coming this Wednesday March 8 to the Milo Bail Student Center.

This spring's job fair, sponsored by the Career Exploration and Outreach Center, will feature 68 local and regional businesses that are seeking UNO students and alumni to fill their job openings. These businesses are hiring for positions in a wide range of work-including health care, communications, insurance and financial services, transportation, hospitality, business services, government agencies, broadcasting, manufacturing, retail and much more.

Bill Swanson, director of the Career Exploration and Outreach Center, said there are many benefits for students and alumni who attend the fair, including opportunities to find full or part-time jobs, summer jobs, or internships.

"[The job fair] gives students and alumni who are actively seeking internships or part-time opportunities to meet with an employer and begin networking with them," Swanson said.



photo by Caelan Millerd

UNO will host its Spring Job Fair on Wednesday, March 8 in the Milo Bail Student Center.

He encouraged students to attend the event even if they aren't currently looking for a job to "find out what types of positions are out there and what employers are going to have in the future."

Union Pacific will be one of several businesses at the fair. Gordon Hartman, senior manager of leadership, development and recruitment at Union Pacific has been taking part in job fairs similar to this one for several years.

He finds that the fairs been helpful in recruiting workers to fill open positions in the company.

He reported that out of approximately 200 managers Union Pacific is hiring this year, 13 percent are recruited from college campuses and are college graduates.

Hartman gave a helpful tip to students who will attend the job fair:

"Appearance is very important; people actually going to find work need to dress appropriately," he said.

He also suggested writing a targeted resumé as often as possible and, even though the type of degree obtained isn't necessarily as important as the experience, students should put their GPAs on their resúmes.

"GPA is important," Hartman said. "It indicates how motivated the person

See **JOB FAIR:** Page 17

Placement experts offer UNO job tips

SCOTT STEWART
SENIOR STAFF WRITER / SYSTEMS MANAGER

Nearly one-half of UNO students are seeking full-time employment upon graduation, according to a recently-released study by the Office of Institutional Research of 2004-2005 graduates.

Nearly one-third of graduates—31 percent—already have "career-oriented positions upon graduation," according to Linda Mannering, director of the Office of Institutional Research.

Another 17 percent are planning to continue on to graduate school. A few students are undecided about their future plans.

"It fluctuates," said Stacey Coleman of Career Exploration and Outreach. "It is not an equal playing field across the board. Competition for jobs is thick. Jobs are not always in synch with semesters."

Coleman recommends that students begin to prepare for their job searches now, rather than expect a position to be available immediately after graduation.

"Some doors open kind of slow, so you have to keep that in mind," Colman said. "There is more competition with some degrees. Be realistic and prepare accordingly."

One way students can prepare is to attend this Wednesday's job fair. Career Exploration and Outreach offers four job fairs a year: one in the fall, one in the spring, a non-profit job fair and a graduate job fair, according to Coleman.

"The career fair is still the best way to get with future employers," Mannering said.

Another job placement tip Coleman offers is to post your resumé on unoco.unomaha.edu. Peter Kiewit Institute students can sign up for electronic mailing lists through the Career Resource Center in PKI, Room 391.

"They are coming to you—all you have to do is get on your e-mail address and point-

See **JOB PLACEMENT:** Page 17

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Career Exploration Center offers tools of the trade

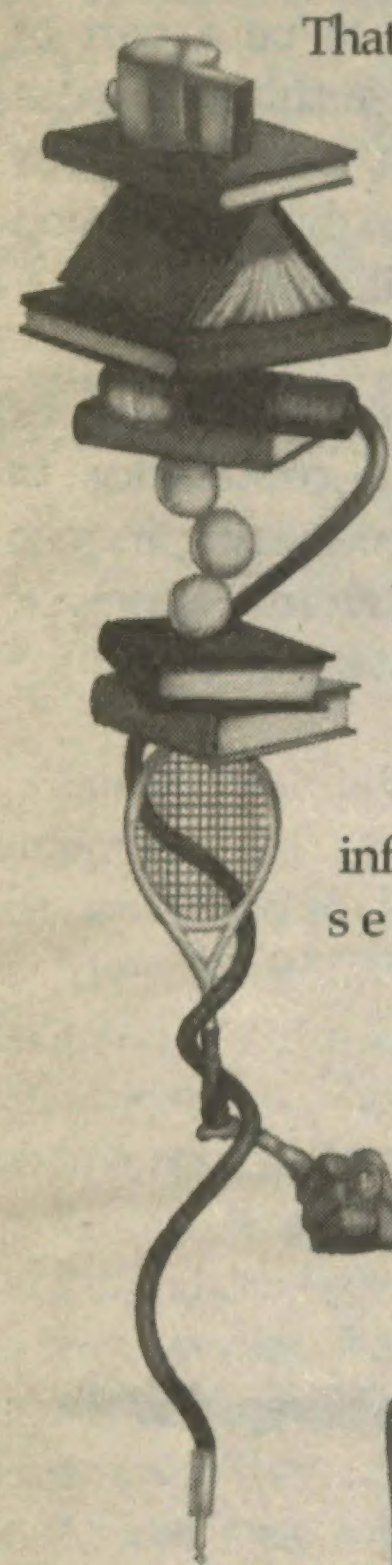
AMANDA GOREY
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

It's time. Time to get a job—a real job. One that doesn't entail an inquiry about whether your client might like to upgrade her order to a "biggie" size.

As graduation looms and you're finding yourself looking for that first job, you may feel lost, with no idea of where to begin.

That's the bad part. The good part is help is out there.

UNO provides career-oriented services to students via the Career Exploration and Outreach Center, located in Room 211 of the Eppley Administration Building. The center's services are designed to empower students with comprehensive information for their career seeking goals.



The center's employees advise students

Ron Borresen/The Herald

on the best ways to look for internships and employment opportunities. They assist in arranging on-campus interviews, and they

facilitate campus career fairs. The center also gives students the opportunity for their resumés to be made available to countless employers via the Career Connect program, said Bill Swanson, assistant to the vice chancellor.

Because of the importance of a good resumé, it becomes a point of fear and contention. A resumé is what gives you the opportunity to get an interview, and interviews get jobs.

If you are feeling overwhelmed in the resumé department, or feel yours might not be adequate and getting the attention it deserves, the center can help.

"We offer resumé writing workshops and one-on-one resumé reviews, between 3 and 5 p.m. on Tuesdays, as well as by appointment," Swanson said. "We also have handouts available in our office and on our Web site."

An interview for a potential job does not have to be a modern form of medieval torture. One easy way to alleviate interview stress, and ensure preparedness is the ritual of the mock interview. The center provides mock interviews to students between 3 and 5 p.m. on Thursdays, as well as by appointment.

Participation in a mock interview gives the job seeker an opportunity to stumble privately, recover and learn from a potential mistake. It also provides the job seeker with guidance to answering any tough and unexpected questions that may be asked in the interview for the candidate's dream job.

The Career Exploration and Outreach Center is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Appointments can be made by calling 554-3672. Information on Career Connect can be found at unoco.unomaha.edu.

Eight tricky interview questions

By KATE LORENZ
CBCAMPUS.COM
(KRT)

Does the thought of going on a job interview cause your palms to sweat and your body to break out in hives? Stop itching; you're not alone.

The vast majority of job seekers admit to emotions ranging from mild uneasiness to downright panic leading up to their interviews. The good news is there have been no reported cases of job seekers who died of nervousness during a job interview. So relax and follow these simple tips for keeping your anxiety at bay before and during your interview.

First, take the proper amount of time to prepare for your interview. Being well-prepared will boost your confidence and lower your anxiety. Experts recommend that you spend at least three hours preparing for each interview.

You should draft answers to the most common interview questions and practice speaking them out loud. You also should read up on the company with which you will be interviewing and prepare some questions of your own. This lets the interviewer know that you are truly interested in the company and the position.

As a final step in your preparation, make sure you have good directions to the interview site. Some job seekers make a dry run to the interview site to ensure the directions are correct and to estimate the amount of time they will need to get to the interview on time.

Going into a job interview is often like entering the great unknown. Although every interviewer is different and questions vary from industry to industry, there are some questions that are common across the board. Reading through the following questions and developing your own answers is a good place to start in your preparation. Once you have done that, remember practice makes perfect! Nothing impresses a potential employer like being ready for whatever is thrown your way.

WHY SHOULD WE HIRE YOU?

Here's the chance to really sell yourself. You need to briefly and succinctly lay out your strengths, qualifications and

what you can bring to the table. Be careful not to answer this question too generically, however. Nearly everyone says they are hardworking and motivated. Set yourself apart by telling the interviewer about qualities that are unique to you.

WHY DO YOU WANT TO WORK HERE?

This is one tool interviewers use to see if you have done your homework. You should never attend an interview unless you know about the company, its direction and the industry in which it plays. If you have done your research, this question gives you an opportunity to show initiative and demonstrate how your experience and qualifications match the company's needs.

WHAT ARE YOUR GREATEST WEAKNESSES?

The secret to answering this question is being honest about a weakness, but demonstrating how you have turned it into a strength. For example, if you had a problem with organization in the past, demonstrate the steps you took to more effectively keep yourself on track. This will show that you have the ability to recognize aspects of yourself that need improvement, and the initiative to make yourself better.

WHY DID YOU LEAVE YOUR LAST JOB?

Even if your last job ended badly, be careful about being negative in answering this question. Be as diplomatic as possible. If you do point out negative aspects of your last job, find some positives to mention as well. Complaining endlessly about your last company will not say much for your attitude.

DESCRIBE A PROBLEM SITUATION AND HOW YOU SOLVED IT.

Sometimes it is hard to come up with a response to this request, particularly if you are coming straight from college and do not have professional experience. Interviewers want to see that you can think critically and develop solutions, regardless of what kind of issue you faced. Even if your problem was not having enough time to study, describe the steps you took to prioritize your schedule. This will demonstrate that you are responsible and can think through

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Look for us at the UNO's Job Fair on March 8th. You may also apply in person Monday, 1-5pm; Wednesday, 9am-5pm and Friday, 9am-12pm at the Hilton Omaha, 1001 Cass Street (enter the Team Member Entrance off 12th Street).

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With this transition in life comes the realization that the student loan payments are coming, and ramen noodles may not suffice as a lifelong nutrition plan.

In this day and age, almost everything is online, including some of your best bets for seeking employment. In addition to visiting the Web sites of companies you would like to apply to and checking their individual listing, sites like Careerlink.com, Monster.com and the Nebraska Department of Labor's Workforce Development sites are excellent places to begin.

"When seeking a job, send your resume out to as many companies as you can," said Laura Weiderholt, an employment specialist with Nebraska Workforce Development. "Most huge companies like First Data and ConAgra could use just about any degree somewhere. It's not just banking or frozen food, they will have opportunities in human resources, accounting, IT, business, law, etc. Don't think about what the company does, think about what you could do for various companies."

Outside of the Internet, job seekers should get books on resumés. Did you know that some career areas have completely different resumé standards and requirements? This is especially true in the case of government jobs. If a job seeker

has narrowed their search to a specific career area, they should check the library or bookstore to see if there are any books related to getting that dream job.

A helpful idea is to interview people who have the job you're looking for, and find out how they got it. Are there any specific qualifications or degrees required? If so, make sure when the time comes, those are clearly highlighted on your resumé.

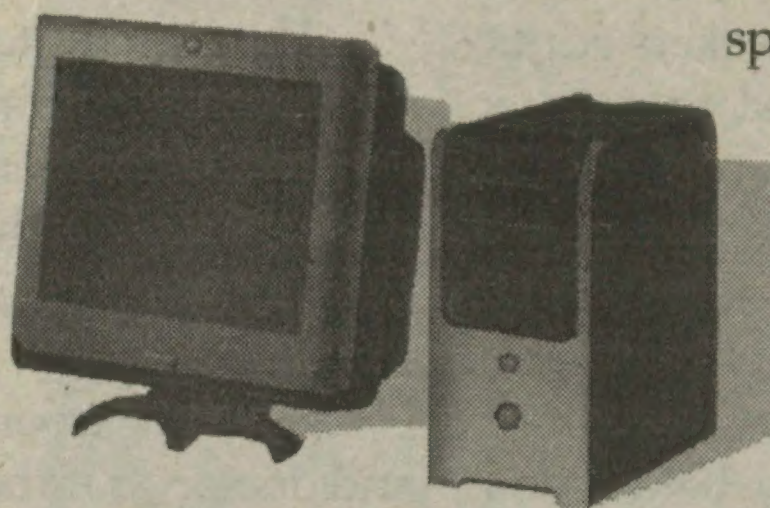
One of the products of a college education should be a stellar resumé. A resumé is what gives you the opportunity

to get an interview, and interviews get jobs. While personality, talent, ambition, perseverance and confidence may "wow" them enough to give you a job, you have to get an interview first.

"A serious job seeker is going to have resumes and cover letters fine tuned to the specific job they are applying for," Weiderholt said.

A job search should also include a trip to the campus Career Exploration and Outreach Center. The center offers comprehensive services to help turn job seekers into job candidates. In addition to sponsoring career fairs, reviewing resumés and helping students prepare for interviews, it is also a good way of getting yourself out into the job pool.

The center can assist in seeking off-campus employment via their Web site under UNO Career Connect, or under the students' section of the site. In addition to a multitude of job listings with area, regional and nationwide career opportunities, there is also a place where a potential candidate can post their resumé for employers to find.



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situations on your own.

WHAT ACCOMPLISHMENT ARE YOU MOST PROUD OF?

The secret to this question is being specific and selecting an accomplishment that relates to the position. Even if your greatest accomplishment is being on a championship high school basketball team, opt for a more professionally relevant accomplishment. Think of the qualities the company is looking for and develop an example that demonstrates how you can meet the company's needs.

WHAT ARE YOUR SALARY EXPECTATIONS?

This is one of the hardest questions, particularly for those with little experience. The first thing to do before going to your interview is to research the salary range in your field to get an idea of what you should be making. Steer clear of discussing salary specifics before receiving a job offer. Let the interviewer know that you will be open to discussing fair compensation when the time comes. If pressed for a more

specific answer, always give a range, rather than a specific number.

TELL ME ABOUT YOURSELF.

While this query seems like a piece of cake, it is difficult to answer because it is so broad. The important thing to know is that the interviewer typically does not want to know about your hometown or what you do on the weekends. He or she is trying to figure you out professionally. Pick a couple of points about yourself, your professional experience and your career goals and stick to those points. Wrap up your answer by bringing up your desire to be a part of the company. If you have a solid response prepared for this question, it can lead your conversation in a direction that allows you to elaborate on your qualifications.

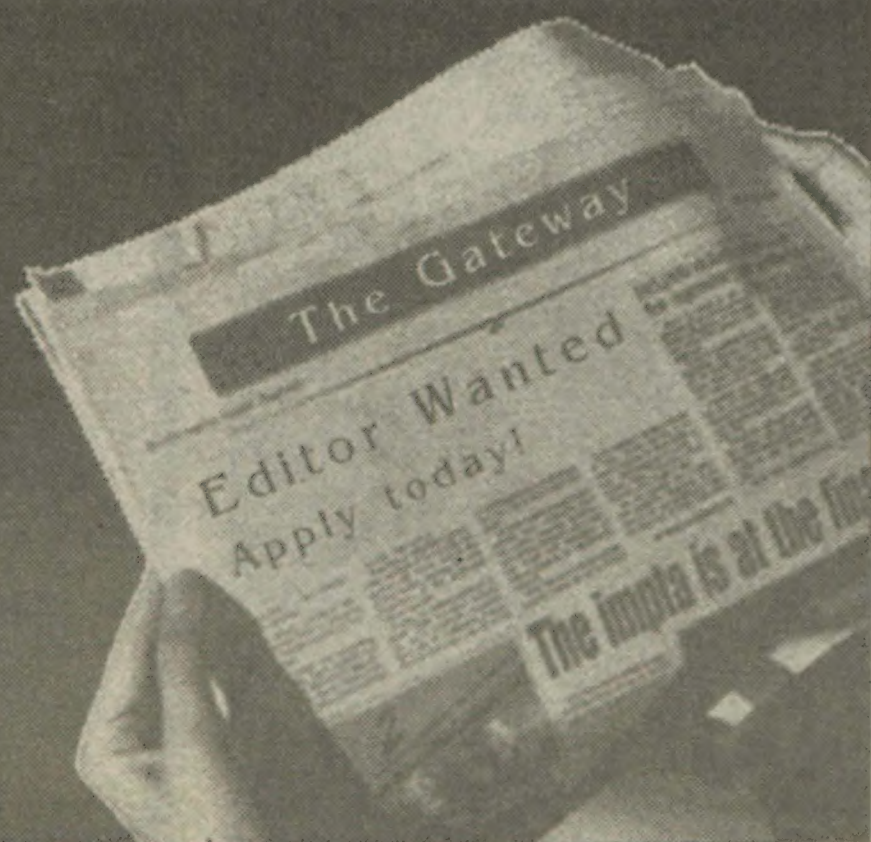
Kate Lorenz is the editor of CareerBuilder.com and a contributor to Cbampus.com, a site specializing in jobs for college students and alumni powered by CareerBuilder.com.



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